

## ABSTRACT

The aqueous-based cross-linkable binder composition comprising

(A) an aqueous dispersion of an aldehyde-functional polyurethane having a number average molecular weight of more than 1,000 and an average aldehyde functionality of  $\geq 2$ , which polyurethane comprises ionic and/or non-ionic dispersing groups, and

(B) a low-molecular weight aldehyde-reactive cross-linker selected from the group of low-molecular weight polyamines and low-molecular weight compounds comprising at least one group of one of the formulae  $E^1-CHR^1-E^2$  and  $H-C-(E^1E^2E^3)$ , wherein  $-E^1$ ,  $-E^2$  and  $-E^3$  are independently chosen from electron-withdrawing groups such as  $-P(=O)-O-$ ,  $-CO-$ ,  $-CN$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-NO_2$  and wherein  $R^1$  has the meaning of hydrogen or a hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

Preference is given to a coating composition wherein the ionic dispersing group is an anionic dispersing group selected from the group of carboxylate, sulphonate and/or phosph(on)ate salt groups, and/or wherein for the nonionic dispersing group use is made of a  $C_1-C_4$  alkoxy poly  $C_2-C_3$  alkylene-oxide group in an amount between 2.5 and 20 wt.%, based on the polyurethane.